



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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| SERIAL NUMBER | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 08/809,340    | 05/06/97    | PADOVANI              | P B-3289PCT615      |

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IM31/1015

| EXAMINER  |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| MACKEY, J |              |
| ART UNIT  | PAPER NUMBER |
| 1722      | 36           |

DATE MAILED: 10/15/01

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

1. ☒ The communication filed 7/16/01 is informal/non-responsive for the reason(s) checked below and should be corrected.  
APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER OR UNTIL THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE SET IN THE LAST OFFICE ACTION (WHICHEVER IS LONGER) WITHIN WHICH TO CORRECT THE INFORMALITY.

- a. ☐ The amendment to claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, fails to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.121 and is accordingly held to be non-responsive. A supplemental paper correcting the informal portions and complying with the rule is required.
- b. ☐ The paper is unsigned. A duplicate paper or ratification, properly signed, is required.
- c. ☐ The paper is signed by \_\_\_\_\_, who is not of record. A ratification or a new power of attorney with a ratification, or a duplicate paper signed by a person of record, is required.
- d. ☐ The communication is presented on paper which will not provide a permanent copy. A permanent copy, or a request that a permanent copy be made by the Office at applicant's expense, is required, see M.P.E.P. 714.07.
- e. ☒ Other *(See attached sheets.)*

2. ☐ In accordance with applicant's request, THE PERIOD FOR RESPONSE FROM THE OFFICE ACTION DATED \_\_\_\_\_ IS EXTENDED TO RUN \_\_\_\_\_ MONTH(S).  
No further extension will be granted unless approved by the Commissioner. 37 C.F.R. 1.136 (b)

3. ☐ Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119 which papers have been made of record in the file.

4. ☐ Other

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1. The reply filed on July 16, 2001, is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant's election of Species B directed to article retention means comprising a conical collar adjacent the receiving hole (as shown in Figures 19-22) is non-responsive since **the application only properly presents claims to non-elected species** (note that **both independent claims 25 and 43 require** that the retention means of the conveying template include a cavity in an element associated with the conveying template, the cavity "having an interior dimension which is smallest in a region remote from the exterior surface" of the element "to define a shoulder thereat", which is **a species of the retention means different from the elected species**). See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

2. It should also be noted that Applicant's inclusion of claim 10 (and claims 11-14 dependent thereon) within the Species B as shown in Figures 19-22 appears to be **incorrect**, since a retention means of a conical element seated in the retention hole properly belongs to Species C (see Figures 25 and 26, which apparently show the **only** species which includes the seating of a retention element in the conveying template hole). Moreover, dependent claims 11-14 apparently describe species of the retention means distinct from both Species B and C (even though claims 11-14 are dependent from claim 10 which requires an element seated in a retention hole of the

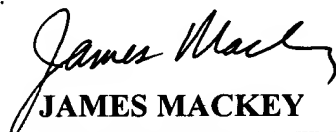
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conveying template, and even though the **species of claims 11-14 do not include such a seating** of an element in the retention hole). Applicant should carefully review the claims to determine whether the claims as written have support in the original specification, and should carefully review the claims to determine which, if any, belong to the elected species.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Mackey whose telephone number is (703) 308-1195. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Nam Nguyen, can be reached at (703) 308-3322. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-7718.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0651. Any inquiry relating to the contents or papers filed in this application, other than issues of substance requiring the attention of the Examiner, should be directed to the Customer Service Office, Technology Center 1700, whose telephone number is (703) 306-5665.

MACKEY/jpm  
October 9, 2001

  
**JAMES MACKEY**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT 1722**

10/9/01